

the back of the head and upper breast were black; the wings were black marked with white; and the tail was black except for an outer strip of white extending to the tip.

In our discussion on the identity of the bird, all black-and-white Australian species were considered but finally rejected. Though the identification of the bird seemed insoluble, I retained the 'identikit' drawing.

About two years later, when consulting Smythies' *Birds of Borneo*, the figure of the White Wagtail on plate XXVIa instantly reminded me of the Woodanilling bird. I compared this figure with my drawing and found the two practically identical. I now have no doubt that the bird seen by Cooke and Gibb belonged to one or another of the east Asian subspecies of *Motacilla alba*. All the latter are migratory, most birds spending the northern winter in northeastern India and southern China, a few individuals extending to the Indo-Chinese countries and the Philippines but seldom further south.

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Additions to the Kalbarri Bird List.—Following the Royal Australasian Ornithologists' Union Camp of 1948 at the mouth of the Murchison River, a list of birds known to occur there was published in *Emu*, 48: 212. Further species—Golden Plover, White-headed Stilt, Little Corella and Variegated Wren—were recorded by K. Buller, *W. Aust. Nat.*, 2: 82 and a reference to Budgerygahs appears in *W. Aust. Nat.*, 3:37.

I was at Kalbarri from June 18 to 21, 1974 and noted the following species additional to those listed in the sources mentioned above:

Crested Pigeon, *Ocyphaps lophotes*. A flock of at least three birds was flushed between Murchison House Station and the access road to Kalbarri.

Bustard, *Eupodotis australis*. This was reported to the R.A.O.U. party by residents, but not sighted. I encountered one bird between the gorge at Z Bend and the access road to Kalbarri.

Redthroat, *Pyrholaemus brunneus*. One bird was encountered at The Loop. This was perched on a small tree and was singing vigorously. It permitted a close approach and was viewed through binoculars in a good light. In the same area a Black-eared Cuckoo, *Chrysococcyx osculans* was calling. This species favours the Redthroat as a host.

Little Wood-Swallow, *Artamus minor*. This bird was not seen by the R.A.O.U. party, but is mentioned in *Birds of Western Australia*, Serventy and Whittell, as occurring in the Murchison gorges. We saw several in flight at The Loop and encountered several resting on the road to Hawkhead Lookout. One was slow in taking evasive action and was nearly struck by the windscreen of our vehicle. In the Northern Territory, I found Little Wood-Swallows given to sitting on roads, but had not previously seen this practice in Western Australia.

—ERIC. H. SEDGWICK, Harvey.

Birds and the Total Eclipse—Observations from Albany.—Birds are not numerous on Mt. Clarence at Albany even though most of it is covered with quite thick scrub. Before the eclipse began, on June 20, 1974, and during the early stages of it there was no bird song to be heard as is quite usual during the middle of the day. As the light from the sun grew less the slight wind became colder and four or five Yellow-winged Honeyeaters (*Phylidonyris novaehollandiae*) called briefly, answering each other, then were silent for a few minutes and a couple called again. Then a family group of Splendid Wrens (*Malurus splendens*) gave a brief twitter just below the brow of the mountain and Kookaburras (*Dacelo gigas*) were heard giving evensong in the distance.

There was no further song during the total eclipse and bird life seemed to resume its normal tenor as the light improved again without